Info-Hams Digest                Mon,  1 Feb 93       Volume 93 : Issue  148

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                        2 meter HT amplifiers
                              80M HT9s
                      ALINCO DJ-580T Question
            Anyone test after Nov 14th get their license yet?
              Becoming active again (renewing license, etc.)
                           CQ EU de AH1A
                Free Ham Classes - Northern New Jersey
                  Great Circle Bearings Data Base?
                             No-codes
                      Notebook PC at CW Exam?
                           radio wanted
                  Solar panel night discharging
                  Solar Panels: advice, sources
           Using electrical outlet ground as earth ground?????
                  VHF Digital Communications (2 msgs)

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Date: Monday, 1 Feb 1993 11:51:12 PST
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!uwm.edu!linac!unixhub!
slacvm!mgb@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: 2 meter HT amplifiers
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I would appreciate any and all information of HT amplifiers.  What brands
, best prices, best places to buy one.  I would like to get at least

an 8 to 1 amplification, but 10 to 1 would be preferable.

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Date: 1 Feb 93 19:34:58 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: 80M HT9s
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm trying to imagine a rubber duck on an 80M handie!

                        '
Dan         Ûo⋆Û(ÛqRÛKÛqRÛ)Ûo+Û    VISUALIZE WHIRLED PEAS (Antidote to a
yuppie bumper                   F
sticker)

N5SEH         (How's that for a CW call sign???)

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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 15:41:43 GMT
From: pacbell.com!att-out!cbnewsd!cbnewsc!rats@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: ALINCO DJ-580T Question
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Here's a question for recent purchasers of the DJ-580T: does your
(VFO) PROGRAMMED SCAN function i.e. scan through a range of frequencies
on the UHF side?

I tried two DJ-580Ts, one with a serial number in the 9000 range
and one in the 11000 range, and neither would function on UHF
in the PROGRAMMED SCAN mode.

The HT would simply start it's scan at whatever frequency on the UHF
side it stopped at. It is as if the it simply ignored the programmed
frequency range.

The VHF side accepts and functions on the PROGRAMMED SCAN function,
as evidenced by the presence of a "P" and the fact that it would
only scan in the range programmed.

I am wondering if these units are suffering from some firmware error.

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Date: 1 Feb 93 18:31:42 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!olivea!bu.edu!wang!
dbushong@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Anyone test after Nov 14th get their license yet?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

mjohnsto@jenny.shearson.com (Mike Johnston) writes:


>The suspense is killing me. Has anyone who tested after November
>14th received their ticket from the FCC?

Nancy (N1OEZ) took hers on the 14th and got her license on Jan 29.  It
seems to have been stalled in the Lancaster, PA post office for six
days due to an OCR misread and barcode overprint error.

Dave, kz1o
--
Dave Bushong, Wang Laboratories, Inc.   Amateur Radio Callsign KZ1O
Project Leader, OCR products            kz1o@n0ary.#noca.ca.na
Internet: dbushong@wang.com


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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 14:39:22 GMT
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!csc.ti.com!tilde.csc.ti.com!m2.dseg.ti.com!ernest!cmptrc!
mitch@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Becoming active again (renewing license, etc.)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Having just recently doing what you are about to do, I can offer some advice.
Go ahead and fill out the form for a renewal.  Include a letter to the FCC
telling them that you have lost you liscense and would liek a replacement.
Assuming that it is either still valid, or less than a year out of date, they
will re-issue it to you.  To get mine back took about 9 weeks.

Good luck!
Mitcheal
KA5SOI
(novice upgrading to tech and beyond!)
(now if I could only get the station up)

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Date: 1 Feb 93 18:08:53 GMT
From: olivea!news.bbn.com!bbn.com!levin@ames.arpa
Subject: CQ EU de AH1A
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <1993Feb1.024256.483@dxis.att.com>
  k2ph@dxis.att.com (Bob Schreibmaier) says:

|From article <BAT.93Jan28111141@gdstech.GRUMMAN.COM>, by bat@gdstech.GRUMMAN.COM
(Pat Masterson):
|>  I heard some guys on the 256 net say that Luigi 'approved' the use of
|> his call. Obviously, he doesnt have to. But, I wonder how he's going
|> to hanldle all those QSL cards he gets?
|
|Hating to beat a dead horse, especially since I need this QSL on
|75 meters... :-)
|
|But, is Luigi out there?  If not, doesn't their use of AH1A violate
|FCC Part 97.109?

There was a longish note on the local packet cluster.  The
dxpeditioners talked it over in detail with Luigi beginning months
ago and are using his callsign with his permission.

He will forward any QSLs mistakenly sent him to their proper
destination.

     73 / JBL    N1MNF
=
Nets: levin@bbn.com  | "How does a mouse let me move the cursor anywhere
pots: (617)873-3463  |  I want?"  "What are address busses?"  "How do
             N1MNF   |  icons work?"                --Time-Life Books


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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 93 15:54:32 GMT
From: qualcom.qualcomm.com!walter!porthos!dancer!whs70@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Free Ham Classes - Northern New Jersey
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Beginning tonight, Monday 2/1/93, there will be a series of classes
for anyone that wants to become a ham radio operator.  Classes are
held at the Mount Olive High School in Flanders, NJ at 7:00pm
every Monday.  The coordinator of the effort is Bernie, KB2YOK.

You can call Bernie at 201-584-4423.

Even if you miss the first class or subsequent classes, the training
sessions are designed to work with the individual.

There is NO cost for the classes except that each "student" needs
their own license manual.

Standard Disclaimer- Any opinions, etc. are mine and NOT my employer's.
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Bill Sohl (K2UNK) BELLCORE (Bell Communications Research, Inc.)

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Morristown, NJ              email via UUCP      bcr!cc!whs70
201-829-2879 Weekdays       email via Internet  whs70@cc.bellcore.com


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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 18:49:19 GMT
From: swrinde!gatech!darwin.sura.net!sgiblab!sgigate!odin!chuck.dallas.sgi.com!
adams@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Great Circle Bearings Data Base?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

in my spare time ;-)  i thought that i'd just sit down and write, in C,
(i guess a REAL CW op would do this in assembly language ;-) ), a program
to calculate great circle distances and directions to various locations on
the planet.  no problem.  program works great and took less than 30 minutes
to design, write, and debug.

now the hard part, getting the data base.

dug out the old Goode's World Atlas, pp 173-288, there is the data for
city with long. es lat.  oops copyright 1964!  let's see, someone gotta
have newer data.  off to the bookstore.  NOT!  only one atlas has the data.
cost $190.  ooops too much.  off to archie server.  no ftp site wid data.

ran into someone with the US Census data 1990.  ok, at least i can do this for
the good ole US of A.  wellllllll, let's see,  143,456 cities, parks, reserves,
etc. at 55 lines/page = about 2608 pages.  no, not interested in that much.
let's just do the county seats.  NOW we get interesting results.  grep through
the file and !! 3,118 county seats !!  ooops, too many, i thought there was
only 3076.  ok, let's go to Texas, home of the 1993 NFL SuperBowl Champs.

grep 'county seat' us.cities | grep '^48' | wc

to get count of counties.....  !! 255  !!   HOLD IT!  i'm a native and an OF
and there has only been 254 since 19xx, were xx is small.  guess i'd better
call the governor and let her know that someone stole one! :-) ok, back to the
bookstore.  "The Universal Almanac" for 1993, page 199 shows 3,141 counties
in the US.  in 1987 there were 3,042, page 166.  now i'm really confused.

here's the point.  the US Government database is wrong.  this unto
itself is scarey but what the hey!  the Almanac is wrong.  who is right?
where do i go to get the correct database that i can trust?  i have the
county list from the ARRL, but what i want is the county seats and their
long./lat. data.  then i want world capitals for every one of the DXCC
countries.

now i think i'm beginning to understand why the publishers gave up on this
data........
```

what's a person gonna do?  abandon the project is not even a consideration
now... ;-)  your help greatly appreciated.  send email to
adams@sgi.com

73 gl bcnu de k5fo  chuck      dit        dit

p.s.  all opinions are mine and not that of SGI.  i'm doing this on my time
      and it's getting to me.  ;-)  maybe i can get the ARRL to do my book
      on this topic!!!!  i could get rich and get that 3,000 dollar rig with
      (what's that thing called?)  a microphone!  ye-ah that's right!  become
      a new DXCC country............................ well, go to one of the
      top 10.  be the only op and cw at that.....  ;-)  :-)   :-)


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Date: 1 Feb 93 15:45:31 GMT
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!rphroy!link.ph.gmr.com!
vbreault@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: No-codes
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jan30.040152.8514@nntpd2.cxo.dec.com> little@nuts2u.enet.dec.com
(nuts2u::little) writes:
   vbreault@rinhp750.gmr.com (Val Breault) writes:

   > bunch of stuff about value and what someone takes out of a burning house...
   >

<some stuff deleted here & there without further note>

   Your argument is that a test should be made difficult so the test taker
   values the effort required to pass the test.  I can't agree for two
   reasons.

   One is that it is a gross generalization and it's debatable that it's even
   true for a majority of the population.  I took a lot of time and effort to
   get my BSCS, certainly more than the time to get to 20 WPM, and yet I value
   the BS about as much as I value BS.  I learned 10 times as much as the full
   time solitary software engineer in small start up company during my
   undergraduate years than I did in any course I ever took.  And the work at
   the start up was certainly much more enjoyable and profitable than the
   school work.  The only thing that degree taught me was how out of touch one
   of the "top" CS departments in the country was with the state of the
   practice.

Odds are, you put a lot more effort (perhaps 10 times as much) into
your work for the software startup company.  You probably value that

working/learning experience more than a whole lot of other things that
didn't involve such a degree of personal involvement.  Of course, I
could be wrong here... There's a remote chance that you had a really
easy time of it and breezed through those working days with hardly
any effort at all.... But I doubt it.  :-)  :-)

   The other reason I can't agree with your argument is that I don't believe
   it is the government's job to make me value my amateur privileges or my
   accomplishment in acheiving some license class.

I agree!  I'm a whole lot more Republican than Libertarian, but I really
endorse Thomas Jefferson's saying "The government that governs best
governs least".

                              I don't need the government's assistance in
   motivation and in "valuing" my efforts and privileges.

I'm very glad to hear that.

   Besides, even if you feel the government should be my motivator, why
   motivate me to learn Morse code?  Certainly there must be other things I
   can do that would be of greater value to me and the amateur community than
   learn Morse code.  Think of how much we could push the state of the art if
   we required potential amateurs to push the state of the art.  Or perhaps
   you feel 20 WPM is state of the art?

Thank you for supporting my claim.

   Besides, if learning Morse code really requires the sacrifice you imply
   based upon the value it instills, can't we use that effort for better
   things?  The potential is staggering.

Well said.

   73,
   Todd
   N9MWB

(scraping noises heard as Val drags out his well worn soapbox
 and clumsily climbs upon it once again.)

Friends, I want to commend Todd for his dilligence (sp?) and his
resolve.  No, seriously, I mean it.  Here's a fellow that knows something
about working toward a goal and finally achieving it.  Here's a guy that
will continue to work to enhance his own personal self worth without
any external motivation.  We used to call these kinds "self-starters".
Todd, you deserve to feel proud of yourself.  I wish only the best for
you and pray that you continue to meet your own personal challenges.

Todd, Perhaps you missed some of my earlier posts where I came out
opposed to the high speed Morse code requirement.  I frequently
use Morse code (every day this week) because I enjoy it.  However,
I believe that Morse code is one mode among many and ought to have
it's priority lowered proportionatly.  I would rather see a structure
where the applicant could substitute intimate knowledge of some mode
(even Morse code) of his choosing.  I'd like to see folks studying
packet, ATV or *SOMETHING* with as much dedication and effort as
they currently do for Morse code.


Now, for the rest of us....

Just for arguements sake, suppose you could choose one of three possible
"Effort" levels for future amateur radio license applicants.  They would
be "Easier than it is now", "About the same as it is now" or "More
difficult than it is now".  Remember, we're talking about total effort
for each class of license.

Which would you pick?  Which would you choose?  The first would make it
easier for folks to get started and would bring in the most "new blood".
The third would admit only those that have demonstrated their resolve
and/or technical ability.

Granted, I've presented a very simplistic challenge.  Any *REAL* analysis
would require MUCH more information and much more discussion.  The only
thing I really wanted to do was to set the stage for this question:
"If the high speed code requirement were to be dismissed, should the
 written exam be left the same (easier overall), be made more difficult
 (maintain the same effort), or be made much more difficult (increase
 amount of effort)?"

My PERSONAL opinion is that it certainly should not be made easier.
I believe that some of the license classes actually need stiffer
requirements right now (but I digress).

I claim that making the license easier to achieve would "cheapen"
the license, reducing it's value and opening the door wider for
the (er... um...) less disciplined members of our society.

Taken to a silly extreme, I'm sure no one wants a license as easy
(cheap) as the old CB radio license (fill out the form and mail it in).
Nor do I believe anyone wants a licensing structure that prevents all
but MS EE grads form achieving the higher license classes.  The first
would admit too much "new blood", perhaps even too much "bad blood".
The second would insure that the frequencies are barren once the current
crop of license holders have gone to the great celestial antenna party.

Opinions?...

--
-val-

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Val Breault - GM Research - vbreault@gmr.com - N8OEF              \      /|
Instrumentation dept., 30500 Mound Rd., Warren, MI 48090-9055     \    / |
The opinions expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect   \  /__|
those of GMR or those of the General Motors Corporation.           \/   |___
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Date: 1 Feb 93 18:37:22 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!olivea!bu.edu!wang!
dbushong@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Notebook PC at CW Exam?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

jones@sj.ate.slb.com (Clark Jones) writes:

>Ronald K Long (rlong@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu) wrote:
>:
>: The title tells it all. Is it allowed to use a word
>: processor in the form of a notebook PC to copy code
>: during a VEC administered exam?
>:
>: Is it up to the individual VEC group to make their
>: own rule?
>:
>: Thanks.
>:
>: 73
>: Ron W8GUS
>: rlong@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu
>:
>I was talking to a friend of mine, who is a VE, and telling him that maybe

That question is specifically dealt with in the VE manual (ARRL VEC).  The
answer is yes, and the examiner(s) need to assure that the candidate is
not using some kind of spell checker, which is not allowed.

>I think that the best bet is to ask the folks that are giving the exam that
>you'll be taking!

This is always the bottom line, though.

Dave, kz1o, VE
--
Dave Bushong, Wang Laboratories, Inc.    Amateur Radio Callsign KZ1O
Project Leader, OCR products             kz1o@n0ary.#noca.ca.na
Internet: dbushong@wang.com


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Date: 1 Feb 1993 13:57:19 -0500
From: swrinde!gatech!news.byu.edu!news.mtholyoke.edu!mhc.mtholyoke.edu!
wvogel@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: radio wanted
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

i am looking for another radio
what i am looking for is a YEASU "FYG-3U" or a "FYG-3V"
if anyone has one they would like to sell i would appreciate any
info you might have and want to pass on

wayne N1OFF


*****************************************************************************
*   N1OFF  449.175 -
*THIS IS MY OPINION ALONE,IT'S ALL I HAVE| wvogel@mtholyoke.edu         *
*AND I REFUSE TO LET ANYONE ELSE HAVE IT | telcom/alarm service         *
*its my ball and you cant play with it   |v413-538-2239  f413-538-2050  *
* insert standard disclaimer here............///............///.........*
*****************************************************************************
* I AM THE KEEPER OF THE TONE  AND  LORD OF THE DUNGEON WORLD OF TONEDOM *
*****************************************************************************


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Date: Monday, 1 Feb 1993 11:54:24 PST
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!uwm.edu!linac!unixhub!
slacvm!mgb@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Solar panel night discharging
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have two solar power panels which I want to use to charge a deep cycle
battery.  I need a device to turn the circuit off when the panel would
start to drain the battery rather than charge it.  Does any body have
a fairly simple circuit design, know of a device, or a way to accomplish
this.

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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 17:41:38 GMT
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!
paladin.american.edu!gatech!gsusgi1.gsu.edu!gsusgi1.gsu.edu!
regmad@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Solar Panels: advice, sources
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

davep@llnl.gov (Dave Parker) writes:

>In article <Pine.3.05.9301311505.A7060-a100000@uafhp.uark.edu>,
>plaws@uafhp.uark.edu (Peter Laws) wrote:
>>
>>
>>   I need to get a Solar panel (or panels) to charge a car or marine
>> battery which will in turn power a 100W HF rig for an average of less than
>> 1 hr/day.  ( <30 hr/mo -- nothing else on circuit)

>Peter,

>If you do find some good info on this, hope you share it with
>the net. I too am interested in a similar set-up. (Especially the 20 bux
>part!)

>Dave

>KD6........??????   Still waiting ;-)

     Best panels are the flexible type sold at marine stores across
     the country.

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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 18:57:12 GMT
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!
sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.unomaha.edu!cwis.unomaha.edu!rerickso@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Using electrical outlet ground as earth ground?????
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Try tuning the electrical ground with an MFJ Ground Tuner or
similar device which has been written up in ham radio publications.
In theory, that should do the trick for you.

The only advantage to a copper cable or strap ground is it
cuts down on resistance losses if you have current flowing
through the copper.  If you tune your groundwire, I assume
that that would not be a factor unless you were running full
power and/or a California Kilowatt amplifier.

Ron
AK0N


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Date: 1 Feb 93 14:17:35 GMT
From: swrinde!gatech!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!agate!spool.mu.edu!hri.com!noc.near.net!
gateway!miki!wpns@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VHF Digital Communications
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C1n2xL.n30@lila.com> dorsey@lila.com (Bill Dorsey) writes:
>have played a bit with packet radio.  I've been disappointed by what appears
>to me to be a complete lack of digital radios designed for voice communic-

Part of the problem is that, if you take the brute-force method of PCM
voice at 8000 bytes per second (plus or minus), you are talking about
64 kilobits of data and (fermi) 100 KHz of bandwidth for a single
voice transmission, which is somewhat inefficient.

Implementing something like CELP (9600 baud) or LPC (4800 baud)
vocoders and a connection-oriented network would really be something,
but those kinds of things are (at the moment) somewhat esoteric and
require a lot of time and other resources.  The main problem is that
low bitrate speech isn't yet a mature technology.

Qualcomm has a chip that will do variable rate vocoder functions which
would make a really neat black-box for amateur use, but they are
building cellphones out of it and haven't decided to make it
commercially available.

There are documents available thru the GPO for CELP and LPC, and
sample source code from some sources (check the comp.speech FAQ), but
there's no easy way for a hobbyist to build something from the parts
in his junkbox.  It's something that I'm interested in doing, but
there are resource allocation issues, as always...

[I'll leave the network details to the armchair lawyers, but it would
be a Very Bad Idea to use current amateur packet nets, and it's
unclear that we're 'allowed' to build any other kind.  Don't get me
wrong, if you are into this kind of thing build it anyway, but be
prepared to document it to the FCC (and only the FCC) if they ask, and
explain why you think it's OK.]

Willie Smith
wpns@pictel.com
--
Willie Smith    wpns@pictel.com    N1JBJ@amsat.org     "I'll make
Beelyuns and Beelyuns from the book contract and the TV show with
government funding for looking for the nothing in the void where The
Bang caused the hole in the middle of it all" Frank Hayes - Cosmos.

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Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1993 17:07:07 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!icon.rose.hp.com!cmoore@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VHF Digital Communications
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Willie Smith (wpns@miki.pictel.com) wrote:

: Qualcomm has a chip that will do variable rate vocoder functions which
: would make a really neat black-box for amateur use, but they are
: building cellphones out of it and haven't decided to make it
: commercially available.

I recently got a flyer from Qualcomm announcing their new Q4400 Vocoder
chip (Single Chip, Full Duplex Operation, Compression rates from 4 to 9.6
Kbps).

(Note:  I don't understand this stuff, just quoting.)

Chris Moore
N6IYS
cmoore@mothra.rose.hp.com

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Date: 1 Feb 1993 17:06:06 GMT
From: news.tek.com!cascade.ens.tek.com!ronk@beaver.cs.washington.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jan27.054329.11990@ssc.com>, <wier-310193190213@csci-
wiermac.etsu.edu>, <1993Feb1.081132.9895@hemlock.cray.com>ronk
Reply-To : Ron.C.Kirkpatrick@tek.com

Subject : Re: Any other W9RG DSP Filter users on the Net ?

In article <1993Feb1.081132.9895@hemlock.cray.com>, dfh@sumac14.cray.com (Don
Hanenberger) writes:
|>
|> BTW, W9GR, Dave H., has in internet address.  Check the most recent QST, I
|> don't have it handy.
|>

I don't have his final address with me either, but, you can address to:
David.L.Hershberger@Tek.Com and we'll send it on for you. (After all, he
is a part of Tektronix. :-))

--
Ron Kirkpatrick
Tektronix, Inc
Postmaster
503-627-6707

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #148
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